

## **Former RCMP Staff Sgt. says Fantino would be a Chronic Bully?**

[Below is an email I received this past weekend from Bob Stenhouse who also phoned me to encourage me not to give in to the Fantino Bully.]

**“I do not make these comments in a pro – or anti stance of the two sides of the positions that are being debated. I do not necessarily agree with all I have read on Caledonia Wake Up Call, I have respect for all people, a love for truth and a passion for justice, I have a special place in my heart for the native people of Canada, and I attempt to bring my opinions into line with an orthodox Christian worldview. That being said, God is a God of justice and mercy. And God is opposed to abuse of power, in whatever form it may take. In this case I believe that Mr. Fantino abused his power and that is why I have written.**

**Sincerely, Bob Stenhouse**

**----- Original Email -----**

**Good Day,**

**I am a former RCMP Staff Sergeant presently living in Edmonton Alberta. My name is Bob Stenhouse and I was dismissed from the RCMP in 2002 for being a whistleblower, and then reinstated by the Federal Court of Canada in 2004 due to the abuse of process on my disciplinary case. While I do not know of your politics or position but I did want you to be aware of how Mr. Fantino’s apparent inappropriate abuse of power seems to be a part of his personal make-up, which I am deeply concerned may border on the psychological make-up of what experts in the field would call a chronic bully.**

**By way of my personal background, I am a graduating seminarian with a Masters of Theology degree, a Human Rights advocate, and instructor and facilitator in the areas of workplace bullying and ethics. I have read Mr. Fantino’s e-mail to the town council and was struck by the similarities of his rhetoric in this e-mail with an anger fuelled letter he had written about me in 2000 when he was chief of York Regional Police and I had given media strategy documents to an author who had criticized Mr. Fantino in his book “Hells Angels at War”. While I was critical of the policing response to organized crime I had not been critical of Mr. Fantino personally. This was left to the author who was quite scathing in his criticisms, thus fuelling an angry response.**

**In a vitriolic letter written to the Commissioner of the RCMP, Mr. Fantino cited my actions as one of the most ‘corrupt’ he had witnessed in his 32 years of policing. He then went on to demand what he termed “appropriate sanction” against the person responsible. This then had the domino effect leading to the abuse of process that was overturned at the Federal Court. My actions were taken for the greater public good and in his position of power he called it corruption.**

**I am deeply concerned about the state of policing in our country. I am concerned about police leaders appearing to believe that they are above accountability and above the law. I acknowledge the very difficult job they have to do while balancing competing interests and ideals, however, one thing I have discovered on my own journey is that personal frustration is**

never a legitimate excuse for abusing one's power. The great philosopher Blaise Pascal has said this about power:

**“Justice and power must be brought together, so that whatever is just may be powerful, and whatever is powerful may be just.”**

Another favourite quote on power seems to apply in this situation:

**“Anyone entrusted with power will abuse it if not also animated with the love of truth and virtue, no matter whether he be a prince, or one of the people.” Jean de la Fontaine**

I welcome you to use my circumstance as what is known as similar fact evidence with respect to historical methods of abuse that Mr. Fantino has used before. I have attached some links on my story that you may find interesting.

In closing, I do not condemn Mr. Fantino, in fact I pray for him. However there comes a time and a place where one must stand against something that is wrong and unjust and in this case, at least with the facts I am equipped with at this time, it would appear that his actions are abusive and wrong and must be challenged.

Sincerely,

**Bob Stenhouse (retired Staff Sergeant RCMP)**

**Edmonton Alberta**

[www.fairwhistleblower.ca/links/canadian\\_wbs\\_links.html](http://www.fairwhistleblower.ca/links/canadian_wbs_links.html)

[www.nowtoronto.com/issues/2001-03-29/news\\_story3\\_p.html](http://www.nowtoronto.com/issues/2001-03-29/news_story3_p.html)

[www.eye.net/eye/issue/issue\\_05.10.01/news/scalpers.php](http://www.eye.net/eye/issue/issue_05.10.01/news/scalpers.php)